

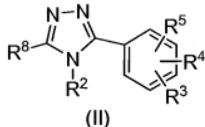
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**Amendments to the Claims**

1.- 15. (Canceled)

16. (Withdrawn) A compound of structural formula II:



or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof; wherein

each n is 0, 1, or 2;

each p is 0, 1, or 2;

R8 is naphthyl or heteroaryl wherein heteroaryl is selected from the group consisting of

- pyridyl,
- thienyl,
- furyl,
- pyrazolyl,
- thiazolyl,
- oxazolyl,
- imidazolyl,
- indolyl,
- benzothiophenyl,
- benzfuryl, and
- benzimidazolyl;

in which naphthyl and heteroaryl are substituted with one to three substituents independently selected from R3, R4, and R5;

R2 is methyl or cyclopropyl;

R3, R4, and R5 are each independently selected from the group consisting of

- hydrogen,
- formyl,
- C1-6 alkyl,
- C2-6 alkenyl,
- (CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>n</sub>-aryl,
- (CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>n</sub>-heteroaryl,

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(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>n</sub>-heterocyclyl,  
(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>n</sub>C<sub>3</sub>-7 cycloalkyl,  
halogen,  
OR<sup>7</sup>,  
(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>n</sub>N(R<sup>7</sup>)<sub>2</sub>,  
cyano,  
(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>n</sub>CO<sub>2</sub>R<sup>7</sup>,  
NO<sub>2</sub>,  
(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>n</sub>NR<sup>7</sup>SO<sub>2</sub>R<sup>6</sup>,  
(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>n</sub>SO<sub>2</sub>N(R<sup>7</sup>)<sub>2</sub>,  
(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>n</sub>S(O)pR<sup>6</sup>,  
(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>n</sub>SO<sub>2</sub>OR<sup>7</sup>,  
(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>n</sub>NR<sup>7</sup>C(O)N(R<sup>7</sup>)<sub>2</sub>,  
(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>n</sub>C(O)N(R<sup>7</sup>)<sub>2</sub>,  
(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>n</sub>NR<sup>6</sup>C(O)R<sup>6</sup>,  
(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>n</sub>NR<sup>6</sup>CO<sub>2</sub>R<sup>7</sup>,  
O(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>n</sub>C(O)N(R<sup>7</sup>)<sub>2</sub>,  
CF<sub>3</sub>,  
CH<sub>2</sub>CF<sub>3</sub>,  
OCF<sub>3</sub>,  
OCHCF<sub>2</sub>, and  
OCH<sub>2</sub>CF<sub>3</sub>;

wherein aryl, heteroaryl, cycloalkyl, and heterocyclyl are unsubstituted or substituted with one to three substituents independently selected from halogen, hydroxy, C<sub>1</sub>-4 alkyl, trifluoromethyl, trifluoromethoxy, and C<sub>1</sub>-4 alkoxy; and wherein any methylene (CH<sub>2</sub>) carbon atom in R<sup>3</sup>, R<sup>4</sup>, and R<sup>5</sup> is unsubstituted or substituted with one to two groups independently selected from halogen, hydroxy, and C<sub>1</sub>-4 alkyl; or two substituents when on the same methylene (CH<sub>2</sub>) carbon atom are taken together with the carbon atom to which they are attached to form a cyclopropyl group;

each R<sup>6</sup> is independently selected from the group consisting of

C<sub>1</sub>-8 alkyl,  
(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>n</sub>-aryl,  
(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>n</sub>-heteroaryl, and  
(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>n</sub>C<sub>3</sub>-7 cycloalkyl;

wherein alkyl and cycloalkyl are unsubstituted or substituted with one to five substituents independently selected from halogen, oxo, C<sub>1</sub>-4 alkoxy, C<sub>1</sub>-4 alkylthio, hydroxy, amino; and

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aryl and heteroaryl are unsubstituted or substituted with one to three substituents independently selected from cyano, halogen, hydroxy, amino, carboxy, trifluoromethyl, trifluoromethoxy, C<sub>1</sub>-4 alkyl, and C<sub>1</sub>-4 alkoxy;

or two R<sub>6</sub> groups together with the atom to which they are attached form a 5- to 8-membered mono- or bicyclic ring system optionally containing an additional heteroatom selected from O, S, and NC<sub>1</sub>-4 alkyl; and

each R<sub>7</sub> is hydrogen or R<sub>6</sub>.

17. (Withdrawn) The compound of Claim 16 wherein R<sub>2</sub> is methyl.

18. (Withdrawn) The compound of Claim 16 wherein R<sub>8</sub> is indolyl or pyrazolyl substituted with one to three substituents independently selected from R<sub>3</sub>.

19. (Withdrawn) The compound of Claim 18 wherein R<sub>2</sub> is methyl.

20. (Withdrawn) A compound which is selected from the group consisting of:

4-methyl-3,5-bis[2-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]-4H-1,2,4-triazole;  
4-methyl-3-[4-(methylthio)-2-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]-5-[2-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]-4H-1,2,4-triazole;  
4-methyl-3-(4-pentylphenyl)-5-[2-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]-4H-1,2,4-triazole;  
3-(2-chlorophenyl)-4-methyl-5-[2-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]-4H-1,2,4-triazole;  
3-(1-methoxy-2-naphthyl)-4-methyl-5-[2-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]-4H-1,2,4-triazole;  
4-[5-(2-chlorophenyl)-4-methyl-4H-1,2,4-triazol-3-yl]-1-methyl-1H-indole;  
4-{4-methyl-5-[2-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]-4H-1,2,4-triazol-3-yl}-1-methyl-1H-indole;  
3-(2-bromophenyl)-4-methyl-5-[2-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]-4H-1,2,4-triazole;  
3-(7-chloro-1-methoxy-2-naphthyl)-4-methyl-5-[2-(trifluoromethyl)-4H-1,2,4-triazole;  
4-[4-methyl-5-(1-methyl-1H-indol-4-yl)-4H-1,2,4-triazol-3-yl]phenol;  
3-(2,4-dichlorophenyl)-4-methyl-5-[2-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]-4H-1,2,4-triazole;  
3-[2,4-bis(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]-4-methyl-5-[2-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]-4H-1,2,4-triazole;  
3-(2-chlorophenyl)-5-(2,4-dichlorophenyl)-4-methyl-4H-1,2,4-triazole;  
3-(2-chloro-4-fluorophenyl)-4-methyl-5-[2-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]-4H-1,2,4-triazole;  
3-(2,4-dichlorophenyl)-4-methyl-5-[2-(methylthio)phenyl]-4H-1,2,4-triazole;  
3-(2,4-dichlorophenyl)-4-methyl-5-(2-methylphenyl)-4H-1,2,4-triazole;  
3-(2-chlorophenyl)-5-[5-(2-chlorophenyl)-1-methyl-1H-pyrazol-3-yl]-4-methyl-4H-1,2,4-triazole;  
4-[5-(2-methoxyphenyl)-4-methyl-4H-1,2,4-triazol-3-yl]-1-methyl-1H-indole;  
4-methyl-3-(2-methyl-1-naphthyl)-5-[2-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]-4-methyl-4H-1,2,4-triazole;

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3-(1,4-dichloro-2-naphthyl)-4-methyl-5-[2-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]-4H-1,2,4-triazole;  
3-(4-chloro-1-methoxy-2-naphthyl)-4-methyl-5-[2-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]-4H-1,2,4-triazole;  
3-(1-fluoro-2-naphthyl)-4-methyl-5-[2-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]-4H-1,2,4-triazole;  
*N*-methyl-2-{4-methyl-5-[trifluoromethyl]phenyl}-4H-1,2,4-triazol-3-yl} naphthalen-1-amine;  
3,5-bis-(2,4-dimethylphenyl)-4-methyl-4H-1,2,4-triazole;  
3-(2,4-dichlorophenyl)-5-[2-(ethylthio)phenyl]-4-methyl-4H-1,2,4-triazole;  
3-(2-cyclopropylphenyl)-5-(2,4-dichlorophenyl)-4-methyl-4H-1,2,4-triazole;  
3-[(2-chloro-4-(ethylthio)phenyl)]-5-(2-fluorophenyl)-4-methyl-4H-1,2,4-triazole;  
3-(2-methoxyphenyl)-4-methyl-5-[2-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]-4H-1,2,4-triazole;  
3-(2,6-dichlorophenyl)-4-methyl-5-[2-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]-4H-1,2,4-triazole;  
3-(2-chlorophenyl)-5-[2-(difluoromethoxy)phenyl]-4-methyl-4H-1,2,4-triazole;  
3-(2-chloro-4-fluorophenyl)-5-(2-chlorophenyl)-4-methyl-4H-1,2,4-triazole;  
3-(2,4-dichlorophenyl)-5-[(2-difluoromethoxy)phenyl]-4-methyl-4H-1,2,4-triazole;  
4-methyl-3-(2-phenoxyphenyl)-5-[2-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]-4H-1,2,4-triazole;  
4-methyl-3-[2-(trifluoromethoxy)phenyl]-5-[2-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]-4H-1,2,4-triazole;  
4-methyl-3-[2-(prop-2-yn-1-yloxy)phenyl]-5-[2-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]-4H-1,2,4-triazole;  
3-{2-[(4-chlorophenyl)thio]phenyl}-4-methyl-5-[2-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]-4H-1,2,4-triazole;  
3-[2-(difluoromethoxy)phenyl]-4-methyl-5-[2-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]-4H-1,2,4-triazole;  
3-(2-ethoxyphenyl)-4-methyl-5-[2-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]-4H-1,2,4-triazole;  
4-methyl-3-(2-propoxyphephenyl)-5-[2-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]-4H-1,2,4-triazole;  
3,5-bis(2-chlorophenyl)-4-methyl-4H-1,2,4-triazole;  
3,5-bis(2,3-dichlorophenyl)-4-methyl-4H-1,2,4-triazole;  
3-(3-chloro-2-naphthyl)-4-methyl-5-[2-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]-4H-1,2,4-triazole;  
3-(5-chloro-6-methoxy-1-naphthyl)-4-methyl-5-[2-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]-4H-1,2,4-triazole;  
3-[2-(4-chlorophenoxy)phenyl]-4-methyl-5-[2-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]-4H-1,2,4-triazole;  
3-[4-(4-chlorophenoxy)phenyl]-4-methyl-5-[2-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]-4H-1,2,4-triazole;  
3-[4-chloro-5-(2-chlorophenyl)-1-methyl-1*H*-pyrazol-3-yl]-4-methyl-5-[2-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]-4H-1,2,4-triazole;  
4-methyl-3-(2,4,6-trichloro-1-naphthyl)-5-[2-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]-4H-1,2,4-triazole;  
3-(2-chlorophenyl)-4-methyl-5-[2-(trifluoromethoxy)phenyl]-4H-1,2,4-triazole;  
3-(2-bromophenyl)-5-(2-methoxyphenyl)-4-methyl-4H-1,2,4-triazole;  
3-(2,3-dichlorophenyl)-4-methyl-5-(2-methylphenyl)-4H-1,2,4-triazole;  
3-(2,3-dichlorophenyl)-5-(2-methoxyphenyl)-4-methyl-4H-1,2,4-triazole;  
3-(2-bromophenyl)-4-methyl-5-(2-methylphenyl)-4H-1,2,4-triazole;  
4-methyl-3-(2-methylphenyl)-5-[2-(trifluoromethoxy)phenyl]-4H-1,2,4-triazole;  
3-(2-chlorophenyl)-4-cyclopropyl-5-[(2-trifluoromethyl)phenyl]-4H-1,2,4-triazole;

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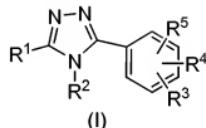
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3-(4-chloro-3-methoxy-2-naphthyl)-4-methyl-5-[(2-(methylthio)phenyl)-4H-1,2,4-triazole;  
3-[2-(4-chlorophenoxy)phenyl]-4-methyl-5-[(2-(methylthio)phenyl)-4H-1,2,4-triazole;  
3-[2-(4-chlorophenoxy)phenyl]-4-methyl-5-[(2-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl)-4H-1,2,4-triazole;  
3-(2-chlorophenyl)-5-(2,3-dichlorophenyl)-4-methyl-4H-1,2,4-triazole;  
3-(2-bromophenyl)-5-(2-chlorophenyl)-4-methyl-4H-1,2,4-triazole;  
3-[2-(4-fluorophenoxy)phenyl]-4-methyl-5-[2-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]-4H-1,2,4-triazole;  
3-(2-chlorophenyl)-5-[2-chloro-3-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]-4-methyl-4H-1,2,4-triazole; and  
4-[4-methyl-5-(1,2,3-trimethyl-1H-indol-5-yl)-4H-1,2,4-triazol-3-yl]phenol;  
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

21. (Withdrawn) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound in accordance with Claim 16 in combination with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

22. (Withdrawn) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound in accordance with Claim 20 in combination with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

23. (New) A compound of structural formula I or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof useful for treating a condition responsive to inhibition of 11 $\beta$ -hydroxysteroid dehydrogenase-1 in a mammal in need thereof



wherein

each n is 0, 1, or 2;

each p is 0, 1, or 2;

R<sup>1</sup> is aryl or heteroaryl wherein heteroaryl is selected from the group consisting of

pyridyl,

thienyl,

furyl,

pyrazolyl,

thiazolyl,

oxazolyl,

imidazolyl,

indolyl,

benzothiophenyl,

benzfuryl, and

benzimidazolyl;

in which aryl and heteroaryl are substituted with one to four substituents independently selected from R<sup>3</sup>, R<sup>4</sup>, and R<sup>5</sup>;

R<sup>2</sup> is methyl;

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R<sup>3</sup>, R<sup>4</sup>, and R<sup>5</sup> are each independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, formyl, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl, C<sub>2-6</sub> alkenyl, (CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>n</sub>-aryl, (CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>n</sub>-heteroaryl, (CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>n</sub>-heterocyclyl, (CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>n</sub>C<sub>3-7</sub> cycloalkyl, halogen, OR<sup>7</sup>, (CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>n</sub>N(R<sup>7</sup>)<sub>2</sub>, cyano, (CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>n</sub>CO<sub>2</sub>R<sup>7</sup>, NO<sub>2</sub>, (CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>n</sub>NR<sup>7</sup>SO<sub>2</sub>R<sup>6</sup>, (CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>n</sub>SO<sub>2</sub>N(R<sup>7</sup>)<sub>2</sub>, (CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>n</sub>S(O)<sub>p</sub>R<sup>6</sup>, (CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>n</sub>SO<sub>2</sub>OR<sup>7</sup>, (CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>n</sub>NR<sup>7</sup>C(O)N(R<sup>7</sup>)<sub>2</sub>, (CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>n</sub>C(O)N(R<sup>7</sup>)<sub>2</sub>, (CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>n</sub>NR<sup>6</sup>C(O)R<sup>6</sup>, (CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>n</sub>NR<sup>6</sup>CO<sub>2</sub>R<sup>7</sup>, O(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>n</sub>C(O)N(R<sup>7</sup>)<sub>2</sub>, CF<sub>3</sub>, CH<sub>2</sub>CF<sub>3</sub>, OCF<sub>3</sub>, OCHCF<sub>2</sub>, and OCH<sub>2</sub>CF<sub>3</sub>;

wherein aryl, heteroaryl, cycloalkyl, and heterocyclyl are unsubstituted or substituted with one to three substituents independently selected from halogen, hydroxy, C<sub>1-4</sub> alkyl, trifluoromethyl, trifluoromethoxy, and C<sub>1-4</sub> alkoxy; and wherein any methylene (CH<sub>2</sub>) carbon atom in R<sup>3</sup>, R<sup>4</sup>, and R<sup>5</sup> is unsubstituted or substituted with one to two groups independently selected from halogen, hydroxy, and C<sub>1-4</sub> alkyl; or two substituents when on the same methylene (CH<sub>2</sub>) carbon atom are taken together with the carbon atom to which they are attached to form a cyclopropyl group;

each R<sup>6</sup> is independently selected from the group consisting of

C<sub>1-8</sub> alkyl,  
C<sub>2-4</sub> alkynyl,  
(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>n</sub>-aryl,  
(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>n</sub>-heteroaryl, and

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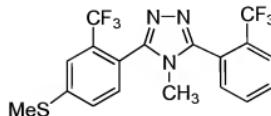
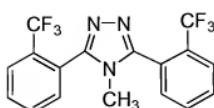
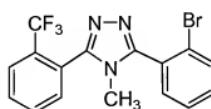
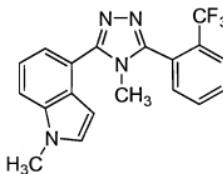
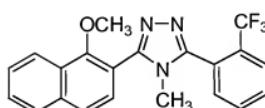
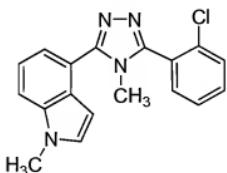
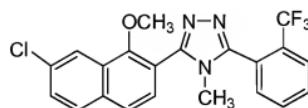
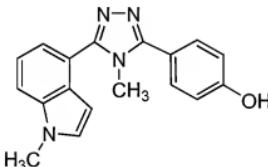
 $(CH_2)_nC_3\text{-}7$  cycloalkyl;

wherein alkyl and cycloalkyl are unsubstituted or substituted with one to five substituents independently selected from halogen, oxo, C<sub>1</sub>-4 alkoxy, C<sub>1</sub>-4 alkylthio, hydroxy, and amino; and aryl and heteroaryl are unsubstituted or substituted with one to three substituents independently selected from cyano, halogen, hydroxy, amino, carboxy, trifluoromethyl, trifluoromethoxy, C<sub>1</sub>-4 alkyl, and C<sub>1</sub>-4 alkoxy;

or two R<sub>6</sub> groups together with the atom to which they are attached form a 5- to 8-membered mono- or bicyclic ring system optionally containing an additional heteroatom selected from O, S, and NC<sub>0</sub>-4 alkyl;

each R<sub>7</sub> is hydrogen or R<sub>6</sub>; and

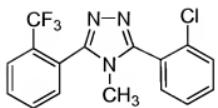
wherein the compound of structural formula I is selected from the group consisting of:



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and

